

THE BLUFFTON PEACE SENTINEL

Vol. 1

Bluffton, Indiana, March 13, 1942

No. 17

ZAM ZAM SURVIVORS RELATE EXPERIENCES

Dr. and Mrs. Merle Schwartz, who were aboard the ill fated ship, the Zam Zam, when attacked by a German raider last year, visited the camp last Monday evening March 9. They related their experiences aboard the Zam Zam and told how they were picked up by the German merchant ship the Dresden and returned to Europe, from where they were able to continue back to New York.

Dr. Schwartz is a native of Carlock, Illinois and, with Mrs. Schwartz, was enroute to Africa where they were to serve as missionaries under the Central Conference Mennonite Mission Board. They had made a special study of tropical diseases and were entering the mission field as medical missionaries.

They sailed from New York on March 20, 1941 on the 30 year old Egyptian boat, the Zam Zam. Although an Egyptian boat and supposedly neutral, the Zam Zam sailed under a British captain and under British orders. The first stop was at Trinidad where they stayed for one week and left for Brazil. In the harbor they met a convoy of many large vessels. Unusual precautions were taken along the entire route especially in the South Atlantic, which was considered the most dangerous part of the journey.

Ship Turns Back

On the third day out of the Brazilian harbor, the ship turned around and started back towards South America. No explanation was given. Naturally the passengers suspected something was wrong but could get no information from the crew. By midnight the boat turned around again and headed back towards Africa. Three days later they suddenly heard a loud noise and then another. Realizing that the Zam Zam was being shelled, they got up and dressed hurriedly. They had been told that in

(continued on page two)

JOHN NEVIN SAYRE VISITS CAMP

John Nevin Sayre, editor of "Fellowship" magazine, visited camp Thursday afternoon and evening, March 12. For the past twenty-five years he has been active in the peace cause. He has visited Europe twelve times and lectured there and he once headed a Fellowship-Quaker mission of friendship to Nicaragua and Central America when Nicaragua was occupied by U.S. Marines. In 1936 he helped organize Embassies of Reconciliation; which sponsored George Lansbury's visits to President Roosevelt, Chancellor Hitler, Mussolini, British and French Government heads and others, in repeated attempts to avert the present world war.

Mr. Sayre has written for the "Readers Digest" and other magazines, and recently appeared on a national radio hook-up. His father was at one time the general manager of the Bethlehem Steel Works. His brother married the daughter of the former President Woodrow Wilson, and is now Governor General of the Philippine Islands.

(cont. on page 5)

Forth coming events

On Saturday evening March 14th one of the quartets is to be at the joint meeting of the Clinton Brick and Frame Litoraries. On Saturday March 21st the chorus will sing at the Pettisville music hall near Archbold Ohio.

Three Friday evening meetings have been tentatively scheduled. On March 20th pictures will be shown on Forestry and on April 3rd Dr. C. Henry Smith is expected back. The State Department of Conservation will send a man to the camp for an illustrated lecture sometime in the near future, probably on the 27th of March.

Arrangements have been made for two Sunday evening chapel programs. On the 15th a group from the Ft. Wayne Bible Institute will be in charge and on the 22nd of March the Byler quartet from Goshen will sing.

HEROIC-PATTERNS MEDITATIONS

by Willis Hershberger



Jan Smit

In the year 1572 a God-fearing man, Jan Smit, lived in North Holland. When men learned of his testimony he was taken prisoner, but with the coming of

Protestantism into North Holland he was again released. On his way home, a Spanish captain apprehended him and he was taken to Amsterdam. Together with other prisoners he was made an oarsman on a Spanish vessel, but refused to help row the boat when his turn came, explaining that he was not the enemy of anyone and could not help Spain win a war.

Jan Smit was then returned to the Spanish leader, Haarlem, and given a chance to explain his faith as a Mennonite. Failing to renounce this faith, he was sentenced to be hung by one leg until dead. Thus died this hero and soldier of Jesus Christ; his faith overcoming the world, sin, flesh and blood, and all tyrants.

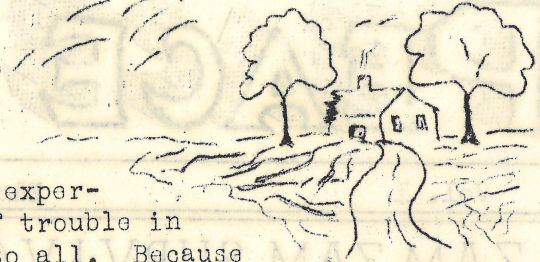
ZAM ZAM SURVIVORS (from page 1)

case of such an emergency they were to remain in their cabins, as that would be the safest place. The shelling continued for about ten minutes and then stopped. People started pouring out of their cabins to see what had happened.

Of the 200 people on the boat, 150 were missionaries and their children. Thirty five were between the ages of six months and 14 years. All were ordered to the life boat stations. When Dr. and Mrs. Schwartz got to the one assigned them they saw that a shell had cut it in two and could not be used. They had to get into another lifeboat that was not full and were joined by the captain of the British American Ambulance Corps, who was one of the last men to leave the ship.

They could now see the big German raider and were impressed by its size. People were floating about in lifeboats, rafts and life preservers. Sharks were adding to the

(cont. on page 5)



The experience of trouble is common to all. Because of condition as they are to-day it is the cry of the multitude. Wherever you go the world over, among people of every race and station, one finds that all have learned the meaning of trouble. It is the soul language of all mankind.

It is not the easiest thing to remain calm and to keep trusting when troubles come. Neither is it uncommon for one to turn his eyes on himself in pity and hope for release from discomforts and troubles that come. Too often we look with scorn and have feelings of ill-will toward the other person and feel we have been wronged.

Take a look at yourself and see what reaction you have taken. Those whose faith is not anchored in Christ cry for release and safety from every trouble. The Christian is here for a purpose and wants to be used to glorify His name. When annoyances, trials, and unexpected storms sweep through his life he uses them as opportunities to draw closer to God, and thus show others that he has a Faith that overcomes the world.

--- Mrs. G.F. Hershberger

GUEST EDITORIALS

On page four of this issue of the Peace Sentinel you will find an editorial which appeared in the first number of "The Columbian" a paper published by C. P. S. Camp No. 21 at Cascade Locks, Oregon.

We are planning to reprint editorials from time to time, from various camp papers. These editorials will not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Peace Sentinel nor of the members of this camp, but should be useful in that they will show the viewpoints of other groups.

The less of it they have, the more people seem obsessed with the inclination to speak their mind.--- Newcastle Courier.

Laundry Notes

by

Albert Jones

John and Sam's hearts skipped a beat when it was rumored that the new laundry stove was finally arriving. Lugging water from the bath house was getting to be an old story.

The ironing crew is permanently stationed now that Erwin Gingerich has taken unto himself a new position, that
(continued on page eight)



FISH-AND GAME PROJECT

by

Dennis A. Lehman

I owe an apology
to Micky, the pet raccoon.

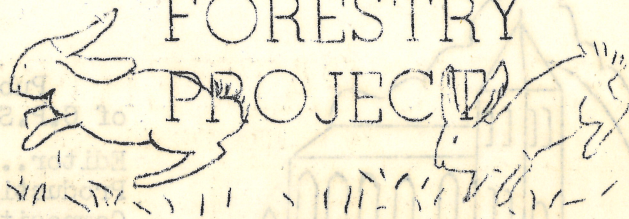
In the last issue of the Peace Sentinel I stated that he was shipped out to be liberated. Micky is an affectionate animal and if sent out would probably track down the hunter and pick his pockets for candy while the bewildered sportsman stood speechless with his hands in the air thinking it was a hold-up. Anyway, Micky stays with us and we may again have the privilege of feeding him candy this summer.

Quail are Manicured

Twenty seven hundred quail have been shipped in for breeding purposes. Before putting them out into coops, each bird had its beak trimmed, left wing clipped and some of the toe nails cut. Those working in the improvised beauty shop were, Gordon Liechty, Milo Stalter, and Edwin Rutt. The "shoppe" was closed after a rushing business which lasted only two days.

Our new mechanic, Paul Yoder, again repairs and polishes trucks in the vacated space. Levi Hershberger and Elias Raber are the mass production carpenters. They made eleven pheasant crates which are being used to transfer the pheasant layers into the open laying fields. They are also making signs and raccoon feeders. Elias is the painter and Levi has been designing a new type of feeder. Its success will depend on whether he makes them to the specifications from Mr. Alberding.

FORESTRY PROJECT



by

Bud Rensberger

The Forestry division has taken over the construction of the water hydrant wells. The Fish and Game division started the wells, but due to lack of men were unable to finish them. Noah Raber and his crew are doing the work. There were approximately ninety two pits to be cemented and only a few have been finished. The construction of these pits was described earlier by the Fish and Game reporter.

Another new project has been started. An addition to the service building at the Fish and Game farm is to be built, and carpenters will soon start construction. They have completed the truck shed, making it possible to keep the trucks close to the camp site.

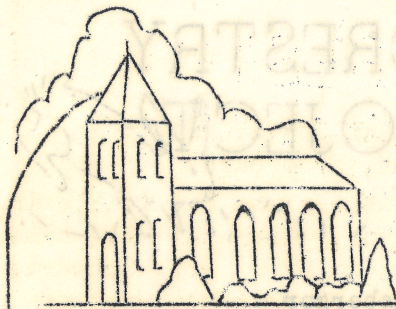
Stooge Cross sees no reason why his riding around with the "big shots" should make anyone else jealous. He even said as much to his boss, Mr. Cook. You had better start looking around for a new job, Shorty!

The tree diggers have nearly completed their work. They were the men who moved a number of trees to the campus, when under the direction of Nate Benner, the camp grounds were beautified.

Plant Trees on Camp Site

Approximately 50 pine trees were planted on the camp grounds this week. Several men were put on special detail to beautify the site by planting these trees in front of the chapel, around the flagpole, at the back end of the grounds behind Dorm E and F, and at various other places. The trees are from three to four feet tall and were procured at no cost to the camp from the state forest.

Dr. C. Henry Smith, Mennonite historian and professor at Bluffton College, Bluffton, Ohio, spoke at the camp chapel last Friday evening, March 6. He showed slides of pictures taken during his visit to the Hawaiian Islands several years ago.



THE BLUFFTON PEACE SENTINEL

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A day of testing has come. Not one of us can live a normal, every day life. We can no longer go about our usual routine. War is on the earth and has come to our very habitation.

The day of testing is laying us bare. It is revealing what we are. There was a time when we could live pretty much to ourselves, mind our affairs and have our own convictions. But not during war time. What we kept hidden in the innermost chambers of our hearts is now being shouted from the house tops for all to hear.

An all out war has been declared. The American people have been asked to sacrifice everything necessary to win this war. They have been told that it is better to give their very lives than suffer defeat. They have been asked to take life in order to win the victory.

Every one is being tested. The searchlight turned on by the war is throwing its glaring rays on all people. It is revealing strange unexpected things. People whom we thought strong are breaking down, unmasked by its penetrating light. Others are confused; knowing not which way to turn. But some are standing firmly on a rock that can never be shaken. They are all out for Christ,--He who gave His all for them.

----CML

LOYALTY TO CONSCIENCE

Bugles sounding forth the assembly call echo and re-echo shrilly across our country.

In response to the summons, millions of men and boys drop their civilian tasks and hasten to the defense of their homeland.

At home they leave families and friends who, with the departing handclasp or embrace, pledge themselves to give the men folk their undivided support and to do all within their power to preserve the "land of the free and the home of the brave."

Also answering the summons in this hour of national peril is a relatively small group of men and boys who have been tabbed conscientious objectors. But as they leave their homes and families it's not for the battle front. Their personal convictions forbid that, forbid the use of violence to stop violence and the taking of human life as a means of bringing "peace on earth, goodwill toward men."

It is these personal convictions, as sacred to this particular group of individuals as life itself, that have brought upon them the wrath and condemnation of

many of their fellow-Americans. "Unpatriotic!" "Cowards," "Slackers," and other scourging names have been hurled at the conscientious objectors.

These cruel critics fail to realize that patriotism is not the issue in the C.O.'s refusal to bear arms for his country. He is not unmindful of the privileges, freedoms, rights and blessings which he enjoys as a citizen of this great country, and there could be no more appreciative individual living beneath the folds of the Stars and Stripes. This is his home, his ideals, his life and he ever hopes for a greater and better America. But even deeper than that loyalty to nationalism lies the loyalty to conscience. It is to conscience that the C.O. makes his first obeisance.

We're standing with you America, but we cannot help you kill and maim and blast people just as human as ourselves. ---The Columbian, C.P.S. No. 21, Cascade Locks, Oregon.

"Debate Him--They'll hate Him!
Live Him--They'll love Him!"

Kitchen Left-Overs

by Paul A. Kinzer

The supper we had on March 5th will long be remembered. Our first oyster stew, with real oyster crackers and all kinds of good cake, was appreciated by all except a few hyper-sensitive, super-pernickety men who don't know their own stomachs.

While Mel Yoder was eating his oyster stew everything seemed to be going all right until he came to a small orange lobster. He stopped short when his vivid imagination saw the thing kicking.

Jesse Reigsecker furnished the kitchen with a large console radio of questionable vintage. Besides keeping our spirits up, the music seems to help our cooking technique. For instance, Mel gets up on the table and puts the potatoes down on a chair. Putting all his weight on the masher he keeps time to the music and finishes the job with a crescendo.

Within the past two weeks our friends contributed to the making of good breakfasts, dinners, and suppers the following items: Mr. and Mrs. Dan Eash of Middlebury, 4 gallons of Jelly and two bushels of apples; Middlebury Mennonite Church, 540 quarts of canned goods; Mr. and Mrs. Harley Mishler of Kokomo, 1 gallon peach butter; J. J. Burkholder of Nappanee, 24 quarts canned goods; Noah Burkholder, 18 quarts canned goods; Forks Mennonite Church, 9 gallons apple butter and 187 quarts of canned goods; Gravelton Amish Congregation, 180 quarts canned goods, 14 cakes and 17 gallons milk; Mrs. Amos Hostetler of Nappanee, 5 lbs. butter, 4 gallons oysters, and 30 lbs. oyster crackers.

JOHN NEVIN SAYRE VISITS CAMP (cont. from page 1)

In his talk to the camp group Mr. Sayre told of the growth of the non-resistant faith. Whereas in 1914 there were almost no pacifist ministers in New York, there are now more than 300 in that city alone who have pledged themselves never to participate or in any way support any war. It was in 1914 that he himself was convinced that a Christian taking part in war did so contrary to scripture. He was teaching Old and New Testament at Princeton University at the time.

ZAM ZAM SURVIVORS (cont. from page 2)

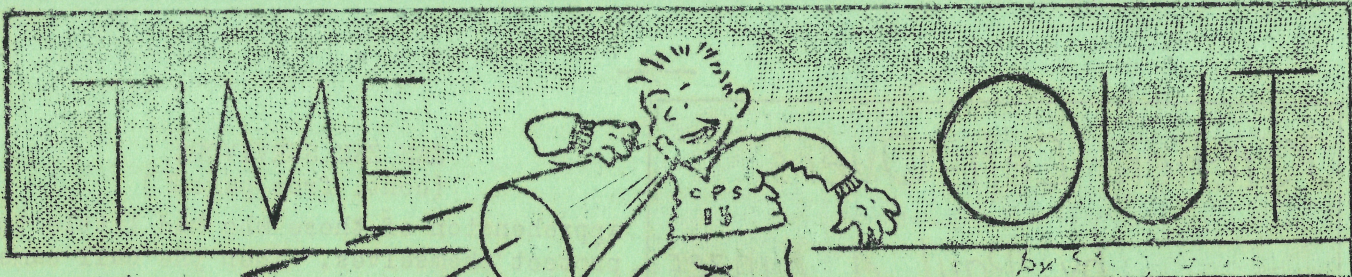
apprehension of those who had little to protect themselves. Then the call came to go aboard the raider. Mrs. Schwartz wondered whether she wouldn't just as soon stay in the life boat as go on the German ship. But seeing sharks and two of the lifeboats already sinking because of shell holes, they did not hesitate long. After they were all aboard the Germans planted two time bombs to blow up the ship. Within about five minutes it was well on its way to the bottom of the ocean, taking many of their possessions with it. They were sent below deck to a large room and everyone was assigned to a bunk. At about twelve o'clock that night an alarm rang and they were transferred to the German merchant ship, the Dresden. It was a nice boat but built to accommodate only about 35 passengers. With three hundred aboard, things were just a bit crowded.

The German officers were as kind as could be expected under the circumstances. Their food was only fair, especially considering that according to the Germans, they were not prisoners but "guests of the captain". They were given meat twice during their 33 days stay on the Dresden. The only satisfactory shave the men were able to get was the morning they saved their hot tea for shaving water.

Go Through British Blockade

Finally the day came when they were asked to keep their life preservers ready for they were about to go through the British blockade. With every light blacked out and with every possible prevention taken to avoid detection, the Dresden slowly slipped through the blockade, and everyone began breathing more easily. It was not until they were safely ashore the continent of Europe in occupied France, that the world first heard of the sinking of the Zam Zam, nearly six weeks after it took place.

Dr. and Mrs. Schwartz hoped to continue on to Africa, but the State Department cabled them to return to America. They were surprised when the Germans returned to them their belongings which were taken from the Zam Zam. The pictures of the Schwartzes appeared in "Life" magazine shortly after their return to America.



Since Gordon Habegger has given up eating meat, there seems to be a chance for the rest of us to get a full meal. Anyone could see that meat wasn't the thing for Gordon anyway. If Dave Kauffman could just hold out we would suggest a good three hour session with the "cross cut" every day.

Is there anything to it that after listening to "The Hermit", Jake Kooi sneaked up to Marvin Aupperle's bed and with a loud "boo" scared poor Marvin into a standing position? Shame on you Jake, what about M's weak heart?

Seems as though Holmes County comes to the front again--in a fire drill this time. One of the Mast boys, Noah by name, got all pepped up over the drill the other night, and forgot all about being considerate to his surroundings. Anyway when a clothes line and two posts loomed up in front of him, he firmly but gently mowed them off at the ground. After hearing this I suggest we clear a path for Noah and let him have his way about the whole thing.

Ben Shirk may be pretty good at handling the ironer but I think he is stretching it a point when he claims that he recite each collar size and owner's name by one glance at the pattern of a shirt. Maybe it would be of interest to him to know that even we who own the things aren't always sure of ownership once they are given the "works" by the laundry crew.

Dorm F has raised an objection to this idea of using their dorm for a chicken coop. They don't mind Jim Day sleeping there but this idea of crowing in the morning has got to stop.

Serves Alvin Weaver right! Someone said that in attempting to take a short-cut across our lawn the other day he first stepped in a mud puddle and then from there, head first into a

TO THE RIGHT IS
THE PRESCRIBED METH-
OD of responding to
a fire signal at nite



snow drift. What is that old adage about "Haste makes--".

If Howard Wenger had just had enough hair, John Plank could have learned how to be a barber all in one setting, but alas and alas, when John had nothing but pure scalp to scrape on he gave up in disgust and will have to wait for Howard to develop another crop of curls.

ADS--TOO LATE TO BE CLASSIFIED...

SHOE REPAIR SHOP in dorm C. We repair any shoes, any time BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK.

DESK for sale. Excellent shape (if any); superb finish (what there is of it) and low mileage (slightly broken in). See Ed. Brookmyer, repairman par excellant.

The other day someone found Loren Zimmerman running around hunting himself. That's OK Loren the woods is full of 'em.

Why doesn't someone tell Jake Girod that he doesn't have to shave and brush his teeth for a fire drill?

Mel Yoder says he has been to the dentist, oh yes,--"just visiting".

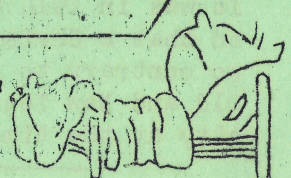
Some of the boys suggested goggles for our next oyster stew. I have a feeling it's not the sand that bothers, but the guy next to you that swings a wicked spoon.

"Silent Elmer" Bontrager can now be counted back in the fold. His period of conditioning is over after the tonsilectomy, and the doctor seems to have fixed him up in good shape except that part of his Dutch dialect is missing.

When Noah Raber decides to work in the mud he really wants to work in the mud and does a good job of it. However the rules do not call for wading around in the stuff shoulder deep. May be Noah became so engrossed in mud pies that he wondered in too deep.

Do not read anything in this space. It is for the exclusive use of the pseudo-censors, Strauss and L. Hershberger.

THIS IS HARLEY
BIRKYS "most individual"
response to any sig-
nal after 10:00 P.M.



The Spirit of Nonresistance

by Guy F. Hershberger

"He that loveth his brother abideth in the light But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hat bkinded his eyes Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer, and we know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him." --- John.

If there is one prayer which men ought to pray above others in this time of war it is that they be spared from the curse of hating each other. But that would be equivalent to prayer for war to cease. For war and hatred go together. Raymond Poincare, a mere boy when the German army invaded Alsace-Lorraine, learned to hate the Germans until he believed life not worth living without the hope that revenge might some day be accomplished. In World War I hatred caused Christians, even preachers, to refer to their human brothers as mad dogs, rattle-snakes and hyenas. In one American city the newspapers asked the local ministers to suggest the best methods of expressing their feelings toward the German ruler. Numerous suggestions were given, including this: "Hang him by his thumbs and cut pieces out of his body day after day until he is either dead or until there are no more pieces of flesh to cut out." Only one who replied to the paper said: "Judge not that you be not judged." Another minister after the close of the war said: "I have no use for a man who has not, for four years now, been angry underneath." In the present war we have not quite come to this point as yet. Recently a minister in a Sunday morning service spoke of the need of punishing the enemy----but without hating him. I am asking frankly: Can it be done? Already American residents and citizens who love this country as much as any of us do, are made to suffer indignities and humiliations merely because their ancestors happen to have been born in a country with which we are at war. Already we are hearing voices saying loudly that we must hate in order to win the war. Will

we hear this over and over until the nation is raging with hate? God forbid. May we pray for love in the hearts of men ---and for the end of war.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Rates: One cent for every ten words.
Subject to change without notice.

Wanted: Someone who has run the mimeograph machine to get out back numbers of the Peace Sentinel. Payment of one candy bar or bottle of pop will be made for each back number put out. See Chief Mimeograph Operator, Ray Thomas.

For Sale: While they last, Genuine Official Westminster Ping Pong paddles at 1/4 cents each. Get yours at the Camp Store.

Special discount on new coffee pot. Was 85 cents. Ordered by one of the dormitories but not called for. Have fresh coffee in your dorm whenever you want it. First 76 cents takes it. The Camp Store.

For Sale: One 1939 Ford V8 Deluxe. With radio, heater and good tires. Tom Miller.

Wanted: Transportation to Orville for week-end of March 21-22. Would be willing to be a passenger or, if necessary, to obtain a car and drive a load to Wooster or Holmes County. Lowell Hershberger

For Sale: Two new Bibles, one a demonstrator. As much as 50% reduction. Franklin Schrock

Fire Crews Organized

The camp now has two fire crews. The night crew is made up of the entire camp group, with each man assigned either to the fire brigade or to a special post for which he is to be responsible in case of fire in a nearby building. Two drills were staged last week, both at around midnight. The best time was about two and one half minutes from the time the alarm started ringing until everyone was at his post. (continued on page eight)

FIRE CREWS ORGANIZED (from p.7)

The daytime crew is made up of kitchen, laundry, office and grounds men. This crew has its own brigade with four reserve units to guard neighboring buildings. Fred Stamm is fire chief of both night and day crews.

LAUNDRY NOTES (from p. 3)

of night watch. Ora Miller, who formerly worked in the laundry, was a substitute for one week, awaiting a full time appointment for which Eli M. Yoder was chosen.

First Aid Class Progressing

Unusual interest is continuing in the first aid course being taught by Mr. William Spurgeon, science instructor at the Berne high school. Last week Mr. Spurgeon brought with him Edmund Baumgartner, Raymond Beer, and Sherman Stucky, all three well versed in the art of making bandages, and a two hour session of tying knots, making and taking off bandages followed.

Bandages are used for holding dressings in place, as a sling, for tourniquets and to hold splints. The three corner bandage made by cutting a piece of cloth 36" or 40" square diagonally, is the one generally used in first aid work.

According to a recent tabulation there are now a total of 143 Methodist boys in Civilian Public Service Camps. With the expectation that the number of assignees to these camps will be more than doubled within the next two years, the number of Methodists will likewise increase.

In Other Camps

Our daily morning Chapel services are of unique value to us. Since the campers are responsible for giving the talks on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday morning many have been given the opportunity to exercise their ability and give expression to their feelings on different subjects.

—C.P.S. Camp No. 4, Grottoes, Virginia.

A course in farm accounting has been added to our educational program. The class, taught by Howard Kauffman, a former student of Goshen College, meets on Monday night, using text material provided by the Agricultural Extension Service of Ohio State University.

—C.P.S. Camp No. 8, Marietta, Ohio.

PROJECT WORK to most Buck Creekers means swinging axes and loading dump trucks at Crabtree Meadow Park; to eight campers it connotes lugging 85 pounds of concrete up steep mountain slopes and wielding keen machetes while slashing trails through forest underbrush.

—C.P.S. Camp No. 19, Marion, No. Carolina

A change in administration which sends Mr. Mathis to Camp Lagro, Indiana, Director Paul Bowman, Jr. to South America, and Rev. Ora Huston of Oklahoma City to Camp Magnolia was announced last week by M.R. Zigler during his visit here. This news came as a distinct shock to the camp, which was unaware that such sweeping changes were pending.

—C.P.S. Camp No. 7, Magnolia Arkansas.

Six boys unloaded and hauled fifty-one tons of sand off a car at Moorhead in one day. They started in the morning when the thermometer showed 7 degrees below zero. The sand was all frozen solid except for several truck loads in the center of the car. —C.P.S. Camp 18, Denison,

From....
C.P.S. Camp 13
Bluffton, Indiana

Sec. 562 P.I. & R.

Louis Lee Lock

C.P.S. Camp # 14

Merom, Ind.

MARCH

